

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 SSM-03 CU-02 TRSE-00
SSC-01 DHA-02 MCT-01 AF-10 OES-06 /104 W
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R 180732Z APR 77
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4536
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDAH
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC HONOLULU

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 4330

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CH, JO TW
SUBJ: ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS BETWEEN JORDAN AND THE PRC

1. THE APRIL 14 ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN JORDAN AND CHINA REDUCES TAIWAN'S MIDDLE EAST DIPLOMATIC PRESENCE TO ONLY ONE COUNTRY, SAUDI ARABIA. THE MOVE REPRESENTS A REVERSAL OF PREVIOUS POLICIES BY BOTH PARTIES -- THE JORDANIANS HAD CLOSE AND MUTUALLY ADVANTAGEOUS RELATIONS WITH THE ROC WHILE UNTIL VERY RECENTLY THE PRC CASTIGATED JORDAN AS BEING "REACTIONARY" FOR ITS "SUPPRESSION" OF THE PALESTINIANS. PRC CRITICISM HAS BEEN CURTAILED DURING THE PAST YEAR, AND KING HUSSEIN'S RAPPROACHMENT WITH THE PLO SEEMS TO HAVE PLEASED THE PRC.

2. FEI I-MIN PUBLISHER OF THE LOCAL PRC-CONTROLLED "TA
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KUNG PAO", TOLD CONGENOFFS APRIL 15 THAT PEKING VIEWED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SINO-JAORDANIAN TIES AS A SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT WHICH FURTHER ISOLATES TAIWAN. HE ADDED THAT THE MOVE WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY HUSSEIN "COMING AROUND". FEI FELT SAUDI ARABIA WOULD BE A HARDER NUT TO CRACK AND WOULD TAKE LONGER. THE SAUDIS HAVE GRANTED MAJOR CREDITS TO THE ROC (FEI ESTIMATED 30-35 PERCENT OF THE CAPITAL FOR

THE EXPANSION OF THE KAOHSIUNG HARBOR CAME FROM SAUDI CREDITS), AND THEY ARE UNDOUBTEDLY ANXIOUS TO BE REPAYED.

3. JORDAN IS THE THIRD COUNTRY TO BREAK WITH TAIWAN THIS YEAR -- LIBERIA RECOGNIZED THE PRC IN FEBRUARY WHILE BARBADOS DROPPED ITS TIES WITH THE ROC IN JANUARY. ALTHOUGH JORDAN'S MOVE IS A PSYCHOLOGICAL BLOW FOR TAIWAN, IT IS NOT NEARLY AS VITAL AS SAUDI ARABIA WHICH SUPPLIES MOST OF TAIWAN'S PETROLEUM. ONLY 23 COUNTRIES NOW HAVE DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH THE ROC VERSUS 112 WITH THE PRC. A COMMENTARY IN HONG KONG'S PRC-CONTROLLED "HSIN WAN PAO" OF 16 APRIL REPORTED THAT OMAN AND THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES ARE EXAMINING ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH THE PRC AND THAT LIBYA HAS EXPRESSED AN INTEREST. LIBYA UNILATERALLY RECOGNIZED THE PRC BUT RETAINS RELATIONS WITH THE ROC, WHILE THE OTHER TWO HAVE NO OFFICIAL RELATIONS WITH EITHER THE PRC OR THE ROC.

4. COMPARING THE SINO-JORDANIAN COMMUNIQUE WITH THAT SIGNED WHEN LIBERIA RECOGNIZED THE PRC IN FEBRUARY, THE JORDANIANS GO ONE STEP BEYOND RECOGNIZING THE PRC AS THE SOLE LEGAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTING THE ENTIRE CHINESE PEOPLE BY ADDING THAT "TAIWAN IS AN INALIENABLE PART OF THE TERRITORY OF THE PRC". THE PRC IN TURN STATED IT WOULD SUPPORT JORDAN'S "NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE", BUT OMITTED THE WORDS "AND SOVEREIGNTY" USED IN THE LIBERIAN COMMUNIQUE.

5. THE FACT THAT THE SINO-JORDANIAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE WAS SIGNED IN WASHINGTON RATHER THAN ELSEWHERE WAS EMPHASIZED IN "HSIN WAN PAO" WHICH ADDED THAT TAIWAN CANNOT BUT WORRY

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HOW THE U.S. WILL TREAT THEM IN THE FUTURE.
CROSS

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Message Attributes

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